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Title: Dark Offspring 3

Author: An old sage

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Ilyana was disturbed. Strange dire wolves had arrived in the countryside recently and were ruthlessly hunting the animals. Ilyana was angry. She had never seen such disrespect of nature. Not even from the humans that she hated so. If these were orc she would have understood, but nay these were dire wolves. True dire wolves are evil creatures, but she had never seen anything like this. The most disturbing thing was, their numbers were growing at too fast a rate for natural reproduction. It was time, she decided, to investigate.

Cautiously she followed a pack of dire wolves through the forest. Eventually they reached a large clearing surrounded by the great Yew trees. In the center of the clearing there was a large bonfire surrounded by over fifty hairy humanoid shapes. Greatly afraid Ilyana pressed herself against a tree and listened to see what happened. One by one the dire wolves transformed into these

hairy humans.  
Suddenly, there was  
silence. A tall  
cloaked figure stepped  
into the clearing. It  
lifted its hood and  
Ilyana could see the  
face of the stranger  
who was staying in  
the village. Yet the  
strangers face was  
different it was  
covered with a light  
coating of brown fur  
and her teeth figured  
prominently. The  
stranger raised her  
hand and all the beast  
saluted her with the  
same saluted the  
guards in the village  
used. Ilyana gasped  
when she noticed that  
the tall one next to  
the stranger bore a  
striking resemblance  
to the captain of the  
guard...

"Werewolves! So  
thats it," thought  
Ilyana. "Not only  
are these werewolves  
but they were  
Dire werewolves.  
That explained why  
they were so ravenous.  
The ferocity of a dire  
wolf coupled with the  
cunning of a human.  
A deadly combination.  
That stranger must  
have have poisoned the  
guards with  
lycanthropy. That  
way she would  
increase the numbers  
of her pack while at  
the same time  
eliminating any  
trouble the guards  
would have caused."

This stranger was  
too clever for Ilyana's  
liking. She decided  
that if she did not do  
something then the  
werewolves would over  
run the forest and

kill the animals.  
Then the Yew  
Militia would march  
in and kill the  
werewolves inevitably  
destroying the forest  
while they were at it.

She thought for  
some time but was  
unable to decide what  
to do. So she started  
to follow the wolves  
to their meetings more  
often to see if she  
could get some idea of  
how to combat them.

Then one day around  
late evening Ilyana  
was walking through  
the forest near the  
village when she saw  
the stranger walking  
by. The two of them  
spotted each other at  
the same time and  
frozen. Staring at  
each other it was as  
if they could both see  
the other ones mind.

Both of them knew  
there was going to  
a conflict. Ilyana  
pondered talking, but  
decided that it would  
avail nothing.

Suddenly she drew  
her spear and lunged  
at the stranger. The  
stranger dodged to the  
side much quicker  
than a human could,  
grasped Ilyana's arm.

The stranger wrenched  
her arm to one side  
digging her claws in.  
Ilyana screamed and  
kicked the stranger  
in the stomach. The  
stranger was sent  
flying into a nearby  
tree. She got up  
snarling and lunged  
at Ilyana grasping  
her by the throat...